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PRIMATE EMBRYONIC STEM CELLS

ABSTRACT

5 A purified preparation of primate embryonic stem  
cells is disclosed. This preparation is characterized  
by the following cell surface markers: SSEA-1 (-);  
SSEA-3 (+); SSEA-4 (+); TRA-1-60 (+); TRA-1-81 (+); and  
alkaline phosphatase (+). In a particularly  
10 advantageous embodiment, the cells of the preparation  
have normal karyotypes and continue to proliferate in  
an undifferentiated state after continuous culture for  
eleven months. The embryonic stem cell lines also  
retain the ability, throughout the culture, to form  
trophoblast and to differentiate into all tissues  
15 derived from all three embryonic germ layers (endoderm,  
mesoderm and ectoderm). A method for isolating a  
primate embryonic stem cell line is also disclosed.